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On June 29, remember the lessons of Dudley George

by Will Nicholls

Leaders are urging calm on June 29, including Grand Chief Matthew Mukash. June 29 is the day many Aboriginals across Canada will protest the lack of federal concern for Aboriginal issues, including treaties and agreements.

This comes on the heels of the release of the Ipperwash Report May 31. The report finally winds down a mere 12 years after Dudley George became the first Aboriginal in over 100 years to be killed in a land claims protest. While George was shot in 1995 by an OPP officer, named Ken Deanne, a judicial inquiry never even started until November 2003.

Patience is the word of the century when it comes to Aboriginal issues or attempts at justice. Settling land claims is difficult if you ignore what is right and wrong.

If Ipperwash taught us one thing, it is that frustration is a two-way street. In its simplest terms, Aboriginals from the Stoney Point Reserve Band were frustrated that the Canadian Government (via the Department of National Defense) had appropriated their land during the Second World War and were ignoring their own promises to return it.

Ipperwash Park was retaken on September 4, 1995. In two short days frustration levels reached the point where Dudley George was shot and killed.

In the Ipperwash judicial inquiry it was revealed that a lack of understanding of Aboriginal issues and potential solutions contributed to the tragedy. Despite assurances that this was an unarmed protest, police mistakenly claimed Dudley George had a weapon when he was murdered.

The Honourable Sidney B. Linden, Commissioner of the inquiry, pointed out that there were a number of negotiators and experienced personal in the area yet none were used and at no time did the OPP open meaningful talks with the protestors.

One of the problems was the lack of a coherent negotiation response plan. The police did not even have a communications strategy to pass or receive important messages. It also didn't say how any

communications would take place. Complicating matters was the fact that the head of the Negotiation Response Team had no experience in Aboriginal issues, culture or protocol.

The report says that, through their inexperience, the office of former Ontario Premier Mike Harris contributed to the violence at Ipperwash park. Attorney General Charles Harnick testified he heard Premier Harris say, "I want the fucking Indians out of the park."

Other parts of the report say the OPP were directed to remove the protesters within 24 hours. Premier Harris denies using this comment and said at the hearing he considers the statement offensive.

Racial slurs and comments were not only attributed to the premier, but also to officers of the OPP. At no time were they reprimanded by superiors for their blunt racism even as it assuredly increased the chances of a conflict.

On the other side, certain statements didn't help the situation either. One band councilor claimed his vehicle was struck by rocks and bats. As it was passed around the story somehow evolved into one in which a woman was attacked in her car. The band councilor's statements that he saw AK-47s and other weaponry no doubt inflamed the situation. This was one of many in a series of misunderstanding of motives and reasons that led to George's death.

The inquiry says it is essential for police forces to receive training in the history and culture of Aboriginals as well as having a relationship or partnership with First Nations police forces so this situation does not happen again.

Let us all hope that police and First Nations alike learn from the painful lessons of Ipperwash and June 29 and other future days of protest pass without another death.

Remember, if you plan to do anything, be careful. After all, whenever a government ends an inquiry or delivers another report they are always ready to do another. Be safe, my friends.

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on the cover

Photography: Danielle Valade

Design: Little Rick

You take my breath away



It's beginning to become quite obvious that the world is now a crowded place - unless you live in some remote area where no one is around to displease you with their opinionated version of how the world was created. It's hard not to turn a corner without someone lambasting you with some ideological or theological theme of the day, their Technicolor politics or with some pet concern. Luckily, the forest and streams have another ideal climate for inner debating on what lure to use. which time of the day is best to catch the big ones, what mosquito repellent is most effective and non-toxic.

If only life were that simple.

Some issues are worth fighting over. Like enjoying a casual smoke in the living room after feasting on succulent French fries and artificial gravy. Or a rare hamburger that turns white with grease when it cools off into a leftover.

Yes, the dog day afternoons of summer are nearing, with all the usual indicators, forest fires, halter tops, ice cream stands and menacing thunderstorms. Another is the increasing evidence that smoking outside public places is now the norm — meaning that the air inside is now cleaner than the air outside thanks to rules that protect innocent lungs from being invaded by second-hand smoke carcinogens... casually mixed with bad breath and dirty lingo.

In our own towns, tobacco is still cheap enough to cause collateral damage and the choice of a pack for yourself and a carton for others who wish they could evade the long arm of the taxman is the usual fare of depanneur shoppers. Yep, tobacco, once considered as a medicine, is now looked as the Indians' secret weapon. It has

done too good a job of culling the innocent from the healthy in recent surveys that portray the sacred plant as the culprit in slaying thousands upon thousands of nicotine addicts. I always thought that convincing campaigns marketing a potential poison as an enjoyable pastime and a way of life for profit and the bottom line are the real culprits.

Lining up outside our schools and play grounds are mounds of butts that tell me that the next generation has taken to tobacco consumption seriously and voraciously. I thought that the combinations of dust from dry, unpaved roads with direct and second-hand smoke would make for an unhealthy environment already lined with good intentions to better our lives through our youth.

Surprise! The youth don't have it as good as we did when we were young, packs of smokes less than five bucks and plenty of sugar in each pop can, larger-size chocolates and yes, paper dollars worth much more than the Americans' puny version of a buck.

However, all good things come to an end, so our youth must endure the responsibility to right the wrongs of generations of misinformed health practitioners who once believed that the letting of blood was a sure cure for many ailments, including madness and maniacal depression.

Today, youth now know that smoking is unhealthy, but how can you overcome cool images of cool people smoking kool butts? The simple truth is smoking kills many people, yet all smokers are the ones who kill themselves slowly and as surely as the bogeyman who cometh to take your breath away.

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Canada

Mukash named to National Aboriginal Economic Board

by Steve Bonspiel

Federal Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice has appointed Grand Chief Matthew Mukash to the National Aboriginal Economic Development Board.

"I'm very excited about it," said Mukash. "Minister Prentice mentioned it to me at a meeting sometime last fall that he'd be interested to have someone from the Cree Nation leadership on the board. He asked me what I felt about it. That's how it all began."

Although the board had not had its first meeting as of press time, Mukash's tasks will be similar to his former job as Director of the Whapmagoostui Eeyou Economic Development Corporation (WEEDCO).

"I think it's time they use Aboriginal people to advise them on how economic development should be promoted in the Aboriginal communities in Canada," the Grand Chief said.

Mukash was named to the board in late April along with five other Aboriginal leaders across Canada, including Chairperson Clarence Louie of the Osoyoos Indian Band.

Mukash's appointment means he and his colleagues are responsible for developing and advising the federal government on viable solutions to the lack of economic opportunity and high unemployment rates that plague Aboriginal communities. The mandate also touches on policy, programming, and program coordination matters related to Aboriginal economic development.

"This is an outstanding group of individuals whose experience and achievement in business, community development, public service, finance, and other fields, allow us to create a renewed and re-energized National Board," Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice said.

"I think the Cree Nation is a good example of an Aboriginal Nation in Canada that has done pretty well in terms of developing economically," Mukash told the Nation.

"I'm going to suggest that there be a comprehensive plan developed to include all First Nations in Canada and to take the example of the Crees in terms of setting up entities like Air Creebec and Creeco," he said.

Mukash said his vision of a stronger economic Aboriginal community includes creative ways to get much-needed funds from organizations not often used by Aboriginal bands.

"When I was at WEEDCO, we got our funding from Whapmagootsui's portion of the Paix des Braves for economic



"I THINK IT'S TIME THEY USE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE TO ADVISE THEM ON HOW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE PROMOTED IN THE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES IN CANADA,"

development," he said. "It was not substantial, but we were able to get some grant money from different sectors and departments of the government and from the banks. That's the way to operate. We can't keep thinking it's only the government that can give you money, it's not the way it works."

Crees have to be innovative, he emphasized, saying he'd like the board to look beyond resource development to include science and technology in their economic vision.

"The World Bank has a program for Aboriginal peoples and there are other similar institutons that are willing to help Aboriginal communities in the world to develop. They should be approached to promote the welfare of Aboriginal people in the country," he said.

"What's important is to make these economic institutions to operate like any economic entity. When you want to promote a project or a strategy, you don't look for government handouts. You can do 100 times better if you know how to attract investors into your project. It works and that's what I'm willing to promote."

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Mational day of Action PLANNED FOR JUNE 29TH

Aboriginal leaders hope to bring concerns over land claims, social ills and poverty to the mainstream by blocking Canadian commerce

by Steve Bonspiel

The 29th of June marks the 'National Day of Action' for Aboriginal people across Canada. Prominent Native leaders are fed up with the progress of land claims talks at the federal level and the overall abhorrent conditions of Aboriginal reserves and communities, and they want the rest of the country to take notice.

One of the ways Aboriginal leaders and their communities hope to force the Canadian government's hand is by blocking strategic points that will hurt the economic flow of the country, such as railway lines.

Chief Terrance Nelson of the Roseau River band in Manitoba said he is fed up with what he says is the theft of his people's natural resources.

"I've been trying to get people to realize the extent to which the resources are leaving the country," said Chief Nelson. "June 29th is not simply a railway blockade. It is a visible and dramatic way to put a stop to the white people stealing our resources. That's what it's all about."

Nelson told the Nation that similar actions were planned last year, but when newly-appointed Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice pleaded for more time to get acquainted with the Aboriginal claims, they decided to act in good faith and postpone it to this year. Enough time has past, however, and Prentice still has not dealt with the backlog of land claims, that are believed to total over 800 and there are some that date back a hundred years or more.

"What we're saying is Canada has a Gross Domestic Product of over \$1 trillion a year," said Chief Nelson. "They haven't settled the treaty issue over who has the rights to the resources they're selling. We tell them 'you cannot have full benefit over all our lands and resources and expect us to sit by and watch the trains go by filled with our resources. It's pretty damn clear what the message is," he said.

"If it was effective to hand out pamphlets on the side of the road that's what we be doing, but it's not," he continued. "There is no leverage on Canada to say 'you have to deal with the issue.' Now we are starting to look at what we can do to stop the resources from flowing so that the Canadian government comes to the table."

"The question of who owns the resources is still up in the air. The Supreme Court of Canada has made decisions on the inability to consult the Indigenous peoples when the companies or the federal or provincial government ignored the law. So all these resources are flowing out of the country," he said.

Nelson said that his people are not asking for anything special, in fact the money given out each year to Aboriginals by the government is a pittance compared to the large numbers the country gains from natural resource extraction on Aboriginal land.

"We're getting pissed off and we're saying 'look guys, we do not live off the good graces of the Canadian taxpayer. We're telling the Canadian government 'keep your money, keep your funding and your \$9 billion, we want a share of our own wealth."

"It's not about provincial or federal revenues. It's about industry and who's getting the benefits of the resources while the treaties have not been honoured. We don't need any Canadian government funding. What we need is a share of our own resource wealth and the wealth of our land," said Nelson.

Grand Council of the Crees Grand Chief Matthew Mukash was supportive of the idea, but says that his leadership cannot risk getting involved because of sensitive talks that are soon to be finalized over Canada's economic responsibilities under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

"IF IT WAS EFFECTIVE TO HAND OUT PAMPHLETS ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD THAT'S WHAT WE BE DOING, BUT IT'S NOT"



Chief Terrance Nelson

"WE'RE GETTING PISSED OFF
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GUYS, WE DO NOT LIVE OFF
THE GOOD GRACES OF THE
CANADIAN TAXPAYER. WE'RE
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The Michisuu (Eagle) camp is geared to youth and adults aged 14 years and over. If being physically fit and facing challenges and succeeding them, this camp is for you! Participants will learn valuable wilderness skills. Camp runs from July 24-31, 2007 with a possible extension.

There is a \$20 non-refundable fee upon registration for each camp.



For more information regarding the Summer Camps please contact the Eastmain Wellness Centre @ (819) 977-2000. or eastmainsummercamp@yahoo.ca

Drop the pop gets big bucks

The Drop the Pop Challenge in all nine Cree communities can be officially deemed a success as the Voyageur Memorial Elementary School in Mistissini won \$2,000 in a raffle to go towards the purchase of sports equipments and various products related to healthy living.

The challenge, which took place between March and April, is set up to encourage kids to go easy on teeth-decaying soda. It also suggests other alternatives, such as milk, so the children can grow up strong and healthy.



Drop the pop award winners

Gilbert Dick, a Grade 6 student in Whapmagoostui, won the overall student award of a whopping \$500 towards sports equipment.

The following are students who won \$50 towards sports equipment in each community.

Vernon Matoush Mistissini: Zachry Matias Waswanipi: **Tobias Bosum** Ouje-Bougoumou: Tyra Tanoush Nemaska: Waskaganish: Darcy Wynne Robert Gilpin Eastmain: Leonard Visitor Wemindji: Laurence Spencer Chisasibi: Endohosho Masty Whapmagoostui:

Separate knife attacks strike fear

A pair of stabbing incidents has left a Nemaska man dead and another narrowly escaping with his life.

A 20-year-old Nemaska man died after being stabbed in a fight May 17.

Christopher Wapachee and a 16-year-old boy, who cannot be identified, got into an altercation for reasons that are not quite clear.

Wapachee was taken to the local clinic and perished soon after. The teen was arrested early the next morning at his family's home.

It was unclear at press time what the teen would be charged with.

In another incident, a 24-year old woman from Mistissini allegedly stabbed Oujé-Bougoumou resident Benjamin Shecapio-Blacksmith in early May at a camp near OJ.

Both were intoxicated, according to SQ Officer Annie Labreque. Officer Labreque said that Shecapio-Blacksmith was stabbed in the abdomen with a knife. He was taken to the intensive care at the Chibougamau hospital, but was released.

Melanie Gunner later appeared in Roberval court and was charged with attempted murder.

Cree couture draws big money

A 200-year-old Cree costume was purchased for more than \$550,000 at a New York auction by an art dealer who vows to return the "very important piece" of Canadian history to a museum in this country.

The winning bid went beyond Sotheby's pre-sale estimate of \$400.000.

The elaborately decorated outfit, fashioned from an elk or caribou skin, was acquired by a British army officer during the War of 1812 and held for nearly two centuries by his descendants in England.

The ensemble includes a painted skin jacket covered in colourful geometric designs and porcupine-quill pendants, hide leggings lined with beautiful beadwork and a set of leather mittens with stripes and fringed edges.

Dudley George vindicated

Dudley George's soul can rest a little easier as the final report of the botched raid on peaceful Natives in the Ipperwash National Park on September 6, 1995, which ended in his death, spells out who was to blame; and George is not one of them.

The Ontario and Canadian governments and the police all share responsibility, said the scathing 1433-page document.

"It is impossible to attribute Mr. George's death to a single person, factor, decision or institution," Commissioner Sydney Linden concluded in his four-volume report.

"The federal government, the provincial government, and the OPP must all assume some responsibility for decisions or failures that increased the risk of violence and make a tragic confrontation more likely."

Kettle and Stony Point community members were occupying and at the time of the raid. Land that was taken in 1942 and never returned.

Former Premier Mike Harris is also blamed in the report for 'impatience, uttering a racial slur and misleading the legislature.

Former Ontario Attorney General Charles Harnick testified at one point during the inquiry that Harris allegedly uttered "I want the fucking Indians out of the park" behind closed doors.

The George family is asking for an apology from Harris after a haphazard apology by the Ontario government shortly after the report's release.



McGill camp elite student

Innovative program pushes top performers to the next level

by Steve Bonspiel

Aboriginal kids who excel in academics and in sport now have access to elite training techniques thanks to the McGill High Performance Camp run by former Olympian Waneek Horn-Miller, a Mohawk from Kahnawake.

In its second year, the camp attracted 23 students aged 13-18 from across Canada, May 18-20. Horn-Miller was co-captain of the Canadian water polo team that competed at the 2000 Sydney Games.

"I came up with the idea through how my life was shaped," Horn-Miller told the Nation. "Sports and academics are two things that were really important to me growing up. It always taught me balance."

The students took part in activities at McGill's Athletics Building and the state-of-the-art Medical Simulation Centre. The itinerary included inner tube water polo, yoga and fitness testing designed to teach the students the proper way to work out and lead healthier lives.

"SPORTS AND ACADEMICS
ARE TWO THINGS THAT WERE
REALLY IMPORTANT TO ME
GROWING UP. IT ALWAYS
TAUGHT ME BALANCE."

They also picked up tips from two Aboriginal physicians, a Native dentist and a nurse who gave a lesson on the medical realities that face high-level athletes – and then quizzed the kids on it.

Maddie Metallic, 16, is a Grade 10 student at Sugarloaf Senior High School in Campbellton, New Brunswick. Metallic has participated in basketball camps before and made her varsity team this

revs up athletes

"IF THEY GO HOME AND I FARN A FEW THINGS ABOUT BEING NOT JUST BETTER ATH-LETES. BUT BETTER PEOPLE IN THEIR COMMUNITY. THEN **OBVIOUSLY IT'S PAID OFF."**

year as a starter. But she said this camp combined athletics with brainpower and that is what set it apart from the others.

"This is different because you get to learn things like how to be a doctor and they give you ideas for the future," she said. "You get to try new things. I learned a lot of new and interesting stuff this week."

The camp prompted her to start thinking of medicine as a career. "Before I didn't know what I wanted to be, but the camp has made me think, 'Okay, now I can be this or that,'" said Metallic.

That's exactly the result Horn-Miller wanted to achieve. "We often attribute high performance to just sports, but I like to attribute it to anything you do: friendships, relationships, work, school and sports. I wanted to make something that would have all of that in it," she said.

A staggering 50 per cent Quebec's Native physicians participated in the camp. Although that statistic only represents two doctors, it illustrates the pressing need for more youth to enter the medical profession.

An endowment from the Eberts family, the Dreamcatcher Foundation and individual donors allowed the 23 students from as far away as Saskatchewan and New Brunswick to attend the camp.

Horn-Miller raised \$10,000 on her own in order to run the camp. She is hoping that increased sponsorships and donations will pay for travel costs to next year's camp so that any high performance student athlete can attend without incurring debts.

"We want to make this attainable not through economic status, but because of achievement and attitude," emphasized Horn-Miller.





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"Thanking you in advance for your application, and for demonstrating your willingness to increase the tourist activity within Eeyou Istchee."



Tune In

Don't miss "HYDLO AND FRIENDS," a brand-new show on Cree Radio Network JBCCS, every second Wednesday morning from 8:00 to 8:30, starting June 6, 2007 (next broadcast June 20, 2007).

Tune in to hear our friends CHEECHOO and COURCELLES as they discuss how Hydro-Québec/SEBJ and the Eeyouch/Eenouch are doing in their "New Relationship."





In her job as coordinator of First People's House for the last two years. Horn-Miller has organized an annual fall Powwow, concerts and fashion shows to help out Aboriginal students in need and raise awareness of the plight Native students face at a large institution like McGill.

She is also part of a working group of Aboriginal Affairs to increase Native enrollment at the university. The camp is seen as a way to help attract Aboriginal students who are applying to college in the next few years.

"I felt it was a pretty good experience," said Eric Sandy. a 13year-old from Christian Island on his first trip to Montreal. Sandy is a soccer player for his school team and has high aspirations for the future. Although he's a young man of few words, the glint in his eye revealed the effect that the camp had on him.

The kids were in for a special treat with three-time Canadian judo Olympian Keith Morgan. He took time out of his intense preparation for next year's Beijing Olympics to put the kids through fitness testing and demonstrate the sport he has loved since he was a teenager.

"If they go home and learn a few things about being not just better athletes, but better people in their community, then obviously it's paid off," he said. "Even if they don't go on to become professional athletes, this camp teaches them things they can apply in their everyday lives."

Morgan, originally from Calgary but now living in the Montreal area, said a trip to Japan as a 16-year-old Judoka helped push him to aim for an Olympic career.

"I wanted to show them that sport can be taken seriously and they can go far with it," said Morgan. "It can take you around the world to meet new people and have experiences you might not otherwise have had the chance."

Horn-Miller's sister. Dr. Oiistoh Horn, also lent her expertise to the event.

"I know how important it was for me growing up to have a role model," said Dr. Horn, who works as a resident doctor at the lewish General Hospital and is one of four Native medical professionals who took part.

"So for me to become an Aboriginal role model and have the chance to speak to them about my experiences and the sacrifices I made is really important. The most important lesson that the kids can learn here is despite the fact that a large institution like McGill can be an imposing and scary place, is in fact a very supportive and warm place if you find the right people," she

"By showing these kids that there is an infrastructure here for them, it will open their minds up when they decide what they want to do with their life."

The kids also had some off time. They explored the beauty of the city and caught a couple movies. The experience helped them bond, the new friends becoming an incentive for them to return next year.

Dr. Kent Saylor, a pediatrician at the Montreal Children's Hospital, said sometimes all it comes down to is exposure to health professionals to push the youth towards a career in that

"It's very important to start very young with people to get them interested in medicine," said Dr. Saylor, who is also a Kahnawake Mohawk.

He said most Native students only ever see physicians as outside professionals who come into the community for a few days and then leave.



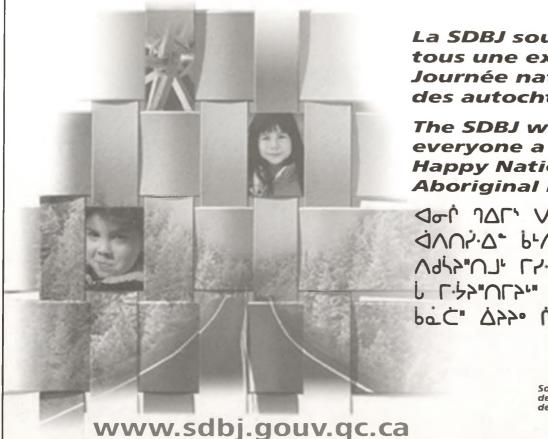




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But to know a physician who grew up in the same community, attended the same schools and played on the same playgrounds is very important to demonstrate that medicine is a viable career for young Aboriginals.

"SO FOR ME TO BECOME
AN ABORIGINAL ROLE
MODEL AND HAVE THE
CHANCE TO SPEAK TO
THEM ABOUT MY EXPERIENCES AND THE SACRIFICES I MADE IS REALLY
IMPORTANT."

As the first Aboriginal pediatrician in Canada, Dr. Saylor works in the Northern and Native Child Health Program at the Children's Hospital and acts as a consultant pediatrician for the Kateri Memorial Hospital in Kahnawake. He also works with the Canadian Pediatric Society to raise awareness of issues specific to Aboriginal children and childcare across Canada.

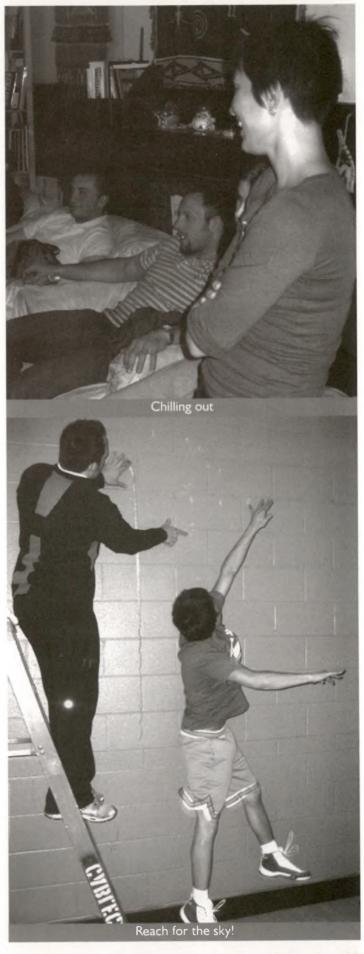
He said that a teacher in high school once suggested to him that he would be a good doctor and that was all it took to get him on that path.

To that end, Horn-Miller ensures that students who work as hard as they can to attain their goals are given recognition for their sacrifice during their stay at the camp.

"A lot of programs in our communities are geared towards at-risk youth," she said. "I think they should be helped and focused on, but we also have to remember those kids who are trying to do good and live well and be positive and successful. That behaviour has to be reinforced with rewards like a camp like this. We need to take them to the next level of what's possible."

Next year's camp is already being planned and although 23 is close to the limit of how many individuals it can handle, Horn-Miller might have to push herself in order to obtain the resources that will accommodate the increase that is sure to follow.

"Often in our communities there is a sense of doing just enough to pass," she observed. "We come from people who really pushed themselves and lived a hard life to the best of their abilities or we wouldn't be here. So I'm trying to re-instill that idea that whatever you do in life do it to the best of your abilities and live a high performance life."



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NATIVE WOMEN TAKE THEIR STRUGGLES TO THE UNITED NATIONS CANADA DENOUNCED FOR IGNORING VIOLENCE



by Amy German

The Native Women's Association of Canada denounced Canada's Conservative government at the United Nations May 22 for its opposition to the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous people.

NWAC President Beverly Jacobs was participating in a UN panel discussion on Indigenous women, lands and resources led by the Tebtebba Foundation from the Philippines.

"This current government is telling us that their priority is aboriginal women and children, well, we have not seen anything yet."

On June 29, 2006, she explained the UN Human Rights Council adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, a decision that was brought about by more than 20 years of work by indigenous peoples and the United Nations system. But the Declaration has not been ratified by Canada.

Jacobs' desire was to make a strong and unified statement on how all governments need to support the rights of indigenous people by passing the declaration, which calls for indigenous people to become self-determining nations.

"We are part of our land and our territories that they (government) cannot develop anymore," Jacobs said. "They can't do anything that affects our rights as people without our consent and without informing us as to what is occurring to our lands and territories and developing it without, not only without our knowledge but without our consent!"

The world's looming water crisis was also a big part of NWAC's presentation "Without water none of us will be here," said Jacobs. .

Water is of special concern to the Cree given the conflict over hydro resources in Northern Quebec, said Jacobs.

At the same time, Jacobs' goal was also to highlight some of the earnest attempts that her people have made in the name of conservation. She told the story of a female elder who has been travelling around the Great Lakes, lending her voice and her prayers to preserve the water and to raise awareness.

"There was another support to an indigenous man who was taking the issues to Geneva in respect to privatization of water and to stop it because they are privatizing water from the Great Lakes," she explained. Among the companies taking control of water is Nestle.

Nestle's head offices are in Geneva and in presenting these stories it was Jacobs' hope that the Canadian government will start paying attention to how they are allowing corporations to take hold of resources that were not even theirs to begin with.

When asked as to what in her opinion was the greatest threat towards indigenous women internationally she alarmingly responded with, "extinction." Jacobs drew a disturbing parallel between the violence indigenous women face both here at home and internationally and the violence that Mother Nature herself is experiencing. Jacobs believes that there is a direct correlation between a violated earth and the issues that are affecting indigenous women.













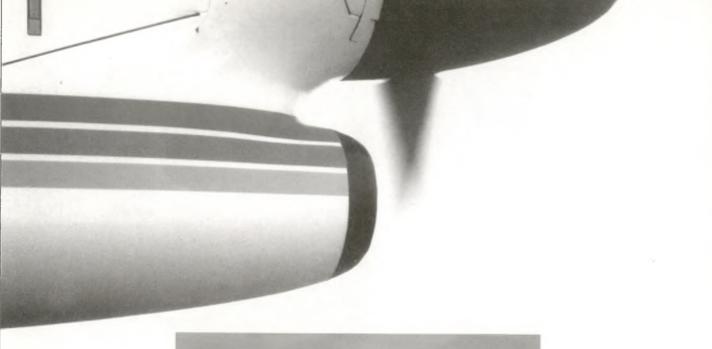














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Je profite aussi de cette occasion pour vous remercier sincèrement. Le 26 mars dernier, vous m'avez élu député du comté d'Ungava. C'est avec beaucoup de fierté que je vois ce lien de confiance. Je peux vous assurer que j'ai la volonté de poursuivre le travail amorcé et d'accomplir avec vous de nouvelles réalisations et vous assure de mon entière collaboration.

My best wishes go out to you for the National Aboriginal Day. This is a privileged time to celebrate your history and cultural heritage as you continue to build a future for you and yours in the Northern Quebec region.

I also take this opportunity to thank you for electing me as deputy of Ungava. I am proud of the faith which you have placed in me.

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Leslie Awashish (centre) with friends Natalie Tremblay and Micheline Mongeau

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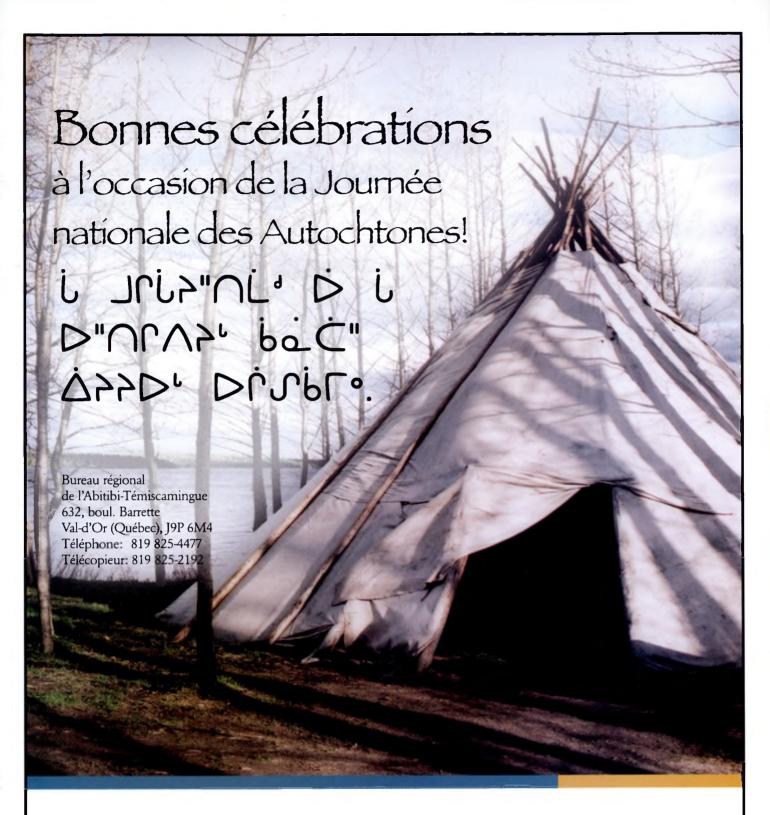
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Lawrence Iserhoff, Mine technician



Robert Mark, Large capacity loader operator







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"We already know that this is a crisis situation with the murdered and missing women across Canada"



BEVERLY JACOBS, NWAC PRESIDENT

"They have been chastised by the UN many times for their treatment of indigenous women."

























"You know, the high rates of imprisonment of aboriginal women in Canada, the forced displacement of our women from our traditional territories, there is a direct link there between our women who have been violated."

For Jacobs, part of the identity of an indigenous woman is a life-giver, and for her as a life giver, she fears for the generations to come.

Not all of Jacobs time was spent in caucus, she explained how outside of the formal meetings there are a number of side events during lunch breaks that the NWAC attended and participated in. The focus of these side events throughout the forum was violence against women and groups from Hawaii, Guatemala, Mexico and Columbia participated alongside Canada.

"They are all indigenous women who are suffering the same violence. It is a very strong message that has come out of the work that we have been doing to bring the attention to governments, to the UN, we are trying to bring the attention to where it is happening."

When asked how well Canada fared compared to other nations in regards to its indigenous people, Jacobs responded, "Well, it never is good. They have been chastised by the UN many times for their treatment of indigenous women."

She cited Canada's failing grade when it came to the committee on the elimination of racial discrimination. "They (the UN) weren't satisfied with Canada's latest response to violence against indigenous women in Canada and had asked them what they are going to continue to do. This current government is telling us that their priority is aboriginal women and children, well, we have not seen anything yet."

Moving on to the current shortcomings of the Canadian government, Jacobs had much to say about Indian Affairs Minister Jim Prentice and her frustration with how the department did not even have a mandate to

fund NWAC. "We were able to get funding through different projects and that kind of thing. However, the whole process now is that they have to transfer and do all of their political processes. It's all about writing memos to cabinet and it has to be approved by Treasury Board and all of those things that have to occur within the political process in order for them to actually fund NWAC as a national Aboriginal organization."

Of course, it all eats up precious time and money for NWAC, funding that could be going towards actually addressing the issues. A number of important women's groups were cut off by the Conservative government when they began slashing funding to Status of Women last fall. Sisters in Spirit, which Jacobs described as a "poster child" for aboriginal women's groups, was one of groups on the Conservative chopping block. Prentice has said that violence towards indigenous women is a serious issue but, according to Jacobs, so far it has been all talk and no action.

"We already know that this is a crisis situation with the murdered and missing women across Canada," said Jacobs.

Ending the cycle of violence is not just about providing more women's shelters but getting to the root of violence. "We always present those things (lack of funding for shelters), we always say you know there aren't enough shelters on reserves but also what we are trying to say is there shouldn't be shelters. We should not be dealing with these issues of violence in the community."

At the heart of it all, Jacobs wants to know what Canada is really going to do about violence as a national issue, not just on the reserves and not just within the aboriginal population. "What are we doing in order to address the violence not only in our communities but also in urban centres and how are those issues being addressed?"

June 8, 2007



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"IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE THAT
THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLE OF
CANADA ARE UPSET ABOUT
THE STATUS OF LAND CLAIMS
IN CANADA."



Matthew Mukash

"The Grand Council has decided we're not going to participate in the protest because we're coming very close to concluding a deal that has been under negotiations for a long time," said Mukash. "We want to be careful not to upset the government."

Although Mukash has had his fair share of fights in the past, including the fight for the Great Whale River in 1990, he thinks the Cree position would be better served as observers who support the cause.

"Sometimes it takes an action like that by any group to focus attention on the issues that they want to promote," said Chief Mukash. "Sometimes it takes attention from the public for governments to respond. Hopefully this protest will serve that purpose. We are just hoping that people won't get hurt in the process. We'll watch it and see how it goes."

"It's understandable that the Aboriginal people of Canada are upset about the status of land claims in Canada," he said. "It's been ongoing for centuries. There is a time to take action and to try to get the government to improve the way they handle claims of Aboriginal people here in Canada. I personally hope that whatever happens will bring forth something positive. I hope the government is going to listen."

National Chief Phil Fontaine was adamant that something needs to be done to address the plethora of problems suffered under the deplorable third-world conditions on Native reserves, but he cautioned those who are looking to throw violence into the mix.

"We haven't finalized our plan, but we expect there will be some good things happening in different parts of the country," said the National Chief.

"In Ottawa we're looking to have a pretty major gathering that will be focused on telling our story to Canadians. That's what the National Day of Action is, reaching out to Canadians. We want them to be more aware and more knowledgable of First Nations issues. We're looking for support from Canadians."

He also mentioned that in the past, the government has responded to other tactics, such as using the court system to advance Aboriginal rights and entitlement.

"We will continue our negotiations with governments, always hopeful that we will achieve success in the way that we did with the residential school settlement agreement," said Fontaine.

"That was negotiations coupled with court action. It was a pretty agressive step to be taken, but we took it and we achieved huge success. It's the largest settlement in Canadian history."

Fontaine warned that not all the issues presented would be miraculously resolved on June 29th, but hitting the Canadian public through an economic slow down is defintely a step in the right direction.

"I think people are nervous and anxious," he said.

"What has captured the attention of Canadians are blockades. The National Day of Action was never about blockades, it's about the public education and information of Canadians. At the same time it would be wrong for us to suggest that our people don't have a right to demonstrate or to engage in civil disobedience or to protest."

A common misunderstanding of Aboriginals and their plight sometimes portrays Natives as greedy and not willing to compromise. But negotiation through strikes or economic sanctions is something the country's First Peoples have learned from Canadians and powerful labour unions.

"All Canadians have freedom of speech," he said. "That might include peaceful demonstrations and protests," said Fontaine, who alluded to the transit strike in Montreal, the CN workers

"THE NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION WAS NEVER ABOUT BLOCKADES, IT'S ABOUT THE PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INFORMATION OF CANADIANS."



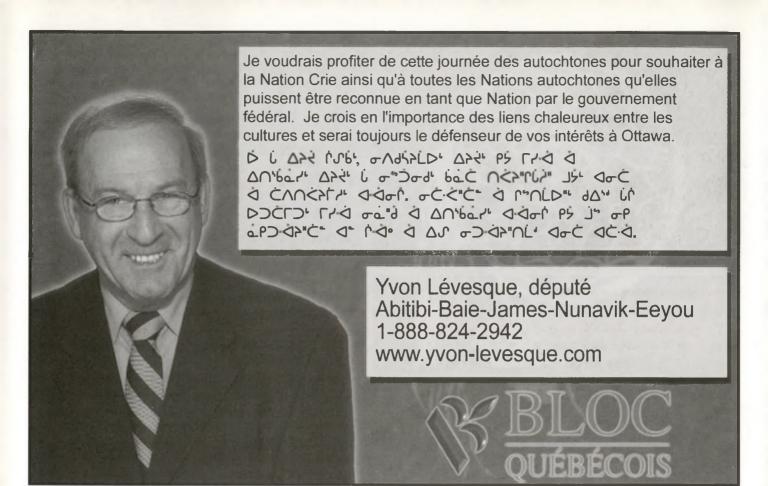
Phil Fontaine

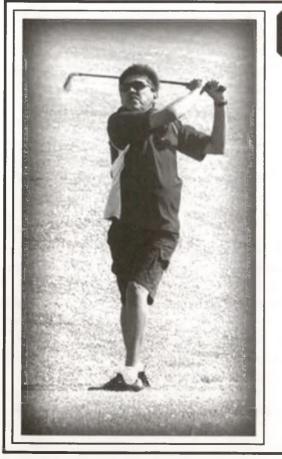
strike and the farmers demonstration in Ottawa as proof that it is not only Aboriginal peoples who have to resort to these tactics.

"We can't control the actions of indivduals, but that's not to suggest that I wish that (violence) to be the outcome. Of course not. But you can't ignore history and outcomes from past actions. Oka (crisis) brought us the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples and the creation of a specific claims body."

Besides, he stressed, we all live in this country together.

"If we improved our lot as First Nations people, Canada as a country will improve. What's good for us is good for Canada."





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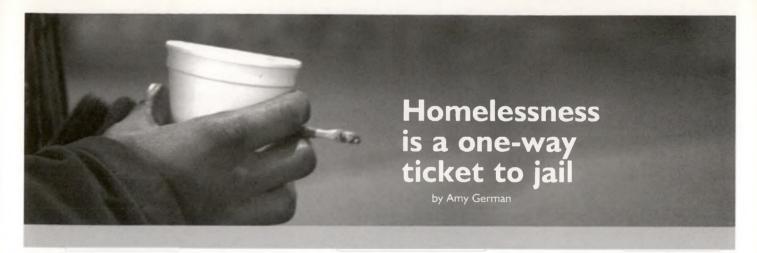
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Montreal is finding a way to house its population of homeless people: prison.

As of September I, 2006, it became illegal to be in a public space such as a public park past midnight and punishable by fines. The Réseau d'aide aux personnes seules et itinérantes de Montréal (RAPSIM), a homelessness advocacy group and a federation of 73 homeless groups in Montreal have staged several protests to highlight the plight of their members and raise public awareness in reaction to the ticketing.

"We found that homeless people have debts at the municipal courts for over \$3 million and of that, \$2 million are from tickets given out by the metro,"

Céline Bellot

"It started out as a global intention of cleaning up the city," said RAPSIM co-ordinator Pierre Gaudreau. The "cleanup" was encouraged by soaring downtown condo development in recent years.

The city initially intended to herd the homeless into shelters, said Gaudreau, "but you can not force people to go to shelters."

In the last two years the homeless have racked up over \$3 million in unpaid fines in Montreal. Why? Because when a homeless individual is issued a ticket, the court notifications are usually sent to the closest shelter.

In that Montreal's already overcrowded and underfunded shelters are incapable of keeping track of their clientele, the tickets accumulate and the individuals fail to show up in court, jail time is the end result.

Once more, the city's transit system, the STM, which had previously promised to show leniency towards homeless indi-

viduals in times of extreme cold and snow went back on its own promise. In the last two years alone ticketing for homeless individuals in the metro system has increased 225 per cent, according to criminologist Céline Bellot, who spoke on behalf of RAP-SIM at their most recent protest on May 17.

"We found that homeless people have debts at the municipal courts for over \$3 million and of that, \$2 million are from tickets given out by the metro," said Bellot.

Marginalized aboriginals make up part of the face of Montreal's homeless and are being subjected to the ticketing.

Aaron McDevitt, an Inuit who worked intensely with Montreal's homeless aboriginal population over a six-month period while working for the website homelessnation.org, said, "We often don't realize that this can be anyone, anyone can end up being on the street."

According to McDevitt, the website was not only created as a project so that homeless individuals could have e-mail and share their stories but also to sensitize the general population to the harsh realities of homelessness.

McDevitt noted that many homeless aboriginals he had encountered from the north on the streets had come south to seek out medical treatment that was unavailable to them in their own communities.

McDevitt was amazed at how many women he had encountered whom had come to Montreal simply to give birth. "It's anyone who runs the chance of getting caught up in the big city. In the city there are a lot of temptations and they have misunderstandings about money, mishandling money and so for a lot of them that is how they come to be homeless in Montreal."

RAPSIM has made some progress with the City of Montreal in regards to the public parks situation, resulting in an 11 per cent decrease in the number of tickets issued in the last few months. But the essential problem remains: "These people need housing, not tickets," said Gaudreau.

For more information go to

<www.rapsim.org/site/index.ntd> or <homelessnation.org>.



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Administration Offices:

Tel: (819) 824-5505 Fax: (819) 824-5420

June 21 is National Indian Solidarity Day.

On behalf of the Assembly of First Nations, National Chief Phil Fontaine and the Regional Chiefs congratulate First Nations leaders and citizens on their ongoing efforts to strengthen our communities.

We invite you to participate in the National Day of Action on June 29,

2007. The National Day of Action is an opportunity for all First Nations and Canadians to stand together in a spirit of unity to support a better life for all First Nations peoples. The relationship among First Nations peoples and Canadians is based on principles of respect, dignity and fairness. On the National Day of Action, the Assembly of First Nations will promote education, awareness and action through peaceful rallies in Ottawa and across the country, giving a unique voice to our children, youth and elders.

As First Nations leaders, we are committed to promoting the political, economic, social and spiritual advancement of our peoples. Working together, we can achieve our vision of a better, brighter and just future for our children today and our future generations.

Phil Fontaine, National Chief

The Assembly of First Nations is the national organization representing First Nations citizens in Canada of all ages, gender and places of residence.

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"I totally didn't expect it!"

by Amy German

A 12-year-old Gatineau schoolgirl won the prestigious Multicultural Arts for Schools and Communities award for literature last May 10 after her teacher submitted her class assignment to the award committee.

Cheyenne Macleod was shocked when she received notification of her prize. "I totally didn't expect it!" she said. "I got a letter in the mail saying that I had won so it really took me off guard."

As a scholarship she has been pared up with Canadian award winning author of An Acre of Time and Riversong, Phil Jenkins, for one year of literary mentoring to help her develop her writing talent.

It started out as a simple assignment. Teacher Aaron Silverberg had asked Cheyenne and her class to write an alternative ending to Khaled Hosseini's The Kite Runner, which they were reading in the class.

"Apparently they really liked it so they gave me the award and, yeah, it's really cool," said Cheyenne, brimming with enthusiasm.

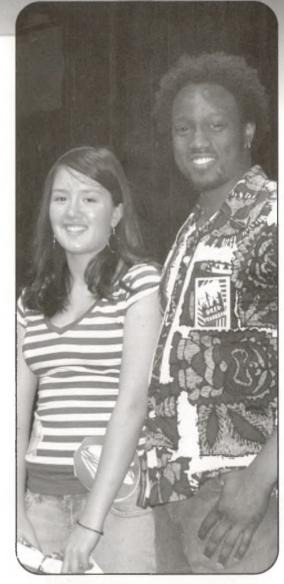
The MASC awards are given out to Grade 6, 7 and 8 students in the Ontario, Outaouais and western Quebec region for excellence in various different artistic disciplines such as drama, visual arts, literary arts, music and dance.

For a child of such a tender age, Cheyenne already displays an uncanny awareness of the world she lives in and its injustices.

"I like writing about things that have a lot to do with the problems in today's world like racism, abuse and anything like that," she said. "I like to kind of tell people about how bad it is and how people can help themselves. I like to give that message out to whoever is reading my work."

Looking towards the future, Cheyenne has already set her sights on delving further into her First Nations heritage. In her first session with Jenkins, he presented Cheyenne with a series of books on native culture.

"I know enough [about my cultural background], but it would be really cool to read books that were written by Canadian authors about Native culture," she said.

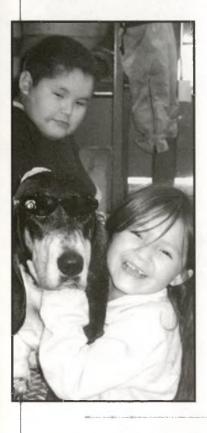


Cheyenne Macleod receives prize.

CLINIC









JUNE 2007 CLINIC SCHEDULE

Chisasibi

Friday June 15 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm Saturday June 16 8:00 am – 6:00 pm Contact Charles House

Wemindji

Eastmain

Tuesday June 19 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Wednesday June 20 8:00 am - 6:00 pm Contact George Cheezo

Nemaska

Thursday June 21 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Friday June 22 8:00 am - 6:00 pm Contact George Swallow

Waskaganish

Saturday June 23 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm Sunday June 24 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Contact Michel Cloutier

What is spaying and neutering?

- Spaying and neutering prevents male dogs from breeding and female dogs from producing puppies. They are methods of providing birth control for dogs by removing their reproductive organs, preventing them from having litters of puppies.
- Spaying is the procedure used for female dogs, while neutering refers to the procedure used for male dogs.

Spaying or neutering is good for your dog

- Spaying and neutering helps your dog live a longer, healthier life by reducing or eliminating many health problems that can be difficult to treat.
- Spaying and neutering make your dog a better companion and can make them less likely to bite.
- Spaying your female dog eliminates her heat cycle. Females in heat can cry incessantly, show nervous behaviour and attract unwanted male dogs.
- Neutering your male dog makes it less likely to roam the neighbourhood, run away or get into fights

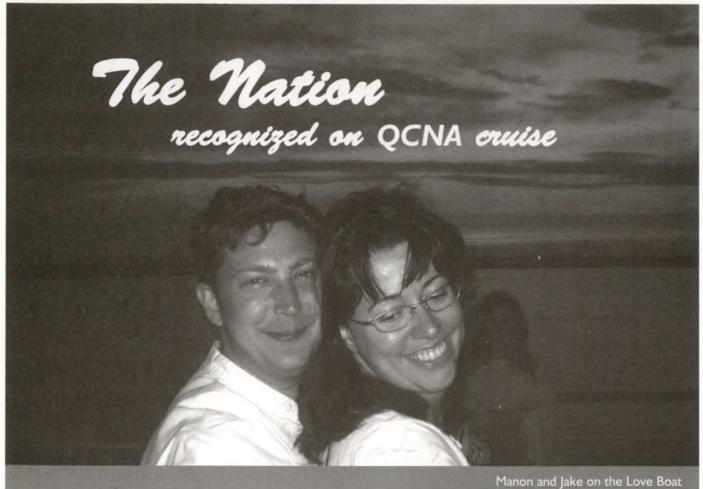
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Steve Bonspiel received national recognition with two nominations with the Canadian Association of Journalists for his articles "The Classroom in Crisis" and "Does the Punishment fit the Crime?" in Toronto on May 26.

The Nation also won three awards at the Quebec Community Newspaper awards gala on a cruise boat in the old Port of Montreal.

The paper took home third place for Best Feature Page for a story that featured homelessness in Montreal

Steve Bonspiel rounded out the other two awards, picking up second place in both the Best Investigative Story and Best Municipal/Civic Affairs Story.

The awards come on the heels of the Canadian Community Newspaper Association's gala where the **Nation** also picked up three awards.





We wish you a happy National Aboriginal Day. Enjoy the celebrations.





Steve Bonspiel's "The Classroom in Crisis" picked up third place in the Outstanding Reporter Initiative in the prestigious competition that pits community newspaper writers across the country against each other.

He also picked up third place for "Does the Punishment fit the Crime?" in the Best feature Story category.

His editorial on AIDS and the implications the Cree communities face because of the debilitating disease won second for Best National Editorial.















VILLE DE CHIBOUGAMAU

Nos meilleurs vœux à la nation Cris lors des célébrations, le 21 juin, de la **JOURNÉE NATIONALE DES AUTOCHTONES**

de la population de Chibougamau

Our best wishes to the Cree Nation on the occasion of

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

on june 21st, from the population of Chibougamau.

Donald Bubar, maire/mayor Carole Dumoulin, conseillère Jerry Poirier, conseiller

Manon Cyr, conseillère Lianne Piquette, conseillère











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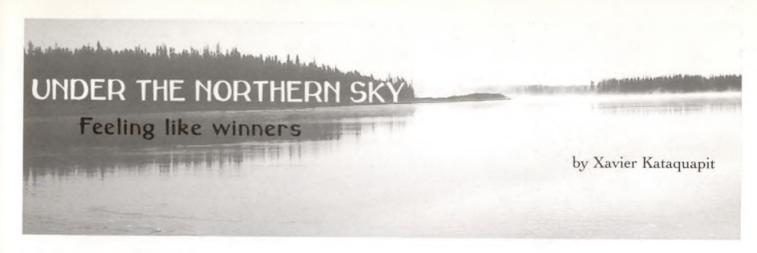
Have any information you'd like to share with the Nation?

Feel like there's something the rest of the Cree Nation should know?

Do you have any stories of corruption, discrimination, or something you want exposed?

Well that's what the Nation is here for.

Call us at 514-272-3077, and we'll look into your story. We cannot guarantee anything will be written and we reserve the right to edit and leave out any libelous content, but if you don't call us, your voice won't be heard!



It is the end of another long and exciting year of high school in the south and myself and my teenage cousins and friends are flying north. It is 1989 and I have just completed my first year of secondary school in Timmins. Forty of us are crammed inside an aging Hawker Sidley heading for the James Bay coast. We are a noisy crowd of rambunctious teenagers heading home for the summer. Our group of 20 students from Attawapiskat and myself have joined familiar faces on this flight north with other students we know who are coming from North Bay.

We sit with our friends on the thin, cushioned orange cloth-covered seats. Everyone is dressed in fresh new clothes. Our parents made sure to send us money for the end of the year so that we would arrive looking our best. We also shopped for the family. The muffled sounds of brand new cassette Walkmans play the latest bands and their music as we fly high over land of pine trees and lakes and rivers. We feel privileged and on the cutting edge in our new clothes in the latest styles with our new music ready to introduce to others back in Attawapiskat.

If any of us had a problem with flying in the past those days are behind us now as we feel like veterans of rocky flights. Most of us are able to keep from throwing up. After a year of flying back and forth over several holidays from our northern home to southern schools on these aging airplanes, we have learned to overcome our problem with motion sickness.

The 500-kilometre flight north to Attawapisat from Timmins is a tortuous series of landings and takeoffs in Cochrane, Moosonee, Fort Albany, a short five-minute flight to Kashechewan and then to Attawapiskat. Our enthusiasm at the start of the flight dies down by the time we make our second series of landings and take offs in Moosonee.

Students leave us as we stop at each James Bay coastal community. We say our goodbyes to friends from Kash, Fort Albany and Moosonee with promises to meet gain in the next school year.

Our final group of students from Attawapiskat sits quietly, anticipating our arrival home. The landscape has changed from an endless thick forest peppered with rock and lakes to our familiar world of mushkeg and tundra. When we look down at our traditional lands, it is an endless expanse of swamp and water. From this high in the air it is hard to tell where the water ends and the forest begins. The landscape is

a watercolour painting of green pine forests, lighter coloured tundra grasses, bull rushes and marsh weeds set in sprawling dark red coloured lakes and creeks that are separated by great bands of tea coloured rivers leading to the grayish James Bay coast.

As we view the world below, we begin preparing for our return to another life.

Our lives are a world of contrasts. When we fly south we look forward to the freedom to move on highways, enjoy new technologies and immerse ourselves in pop culture set in a world of relative order and stability. It also means living with a foreign culture, a foreign language and separation from family.

The flight north is a stark contrast as we consider the prospect of isolation, swamp, traditional life and our old ways of the past that are set in a world of organized confusion. However, it also means we get to be home, speak our language and live with our families again.

As we fly over the mushkeg, we point out familiar rivers leading to Attawapiskat and the landmass of Akamiski Island. Our emotions are mixed. Then we sight our community nestled in the mushkeg alongside the mighty Attawapiskat River. We float down as though shedding our lives in the south with the graceful fall from the pale blue sky. For a minute I almost forget I am in a clunking mass of metal.

After a noisy and rough landing on a gravel runway, the airplane taxies to the terminal where a crowd has gathered to meet us. The sun puts the spotlight on us and it seems that half the town has come out to greet the returning students.

When the airplane engines finally fall silent we begin to stir and line up for our entrance back to our Rez. We feel like rock stars as we step down the high exit stairs and into the crowd that is cheering and calling out our names.

As soon as our feet hit the gravel it is a flurry of hugs, kisses, hand shaking, greetings and laughter. Parents are happy, relatives are joyful and everyone is in good spirits. It is a fleeting moment in our lives. For a short period we are enthused to see each other and to be home. We forget our hardships, our isolation and our troubles. We forget our year away from home, the anxiety of thinking of the future and the reality of returning to a difficult life in a remote northern community. Right now we are the bright-eyed promises of the future and we feel like winners.

31

EMPLOYMENT

JOB OPPORTUNITY

POSITION: Head Chef

TERM: Full-Time (six month's probation)

SALARY: According to Qualifications,

Experience & Budget

DUTIES: As Per Listed (but not limited to)



Requirements

The successful candidate will have:

- Secondary V, with chef's training or equivalent work experience to be considered as a definite asset;
- good cooking and meal planning skills;
- an excellent ability to work well and calmly under pressure;
- an ability to work independently and as part of a team;
- good organizational skills as well as people management and communication skills;
- The ability to speak Cree and English, with knowledge of French to be considered as an asset.

Duties

Reporting to the Manager and the Assistant Manager, the Head Chef is responsible for overseeing the operations of the kitchen and kitchen staff. Specific tasks include, but are not limited to:

- supervising and preparing work schedules for cooks and dishwashers/cook helpers, and ensuring that cooks rotate shifts on the "frontline", "daily specials", "breakfasts/brunches" and "desserts":
- arranging replacement workers in the event of absences;
- planning and pricing well-balanced menus, and reviewing same on a regular basis according to seasonal availability and costs;
- ensuring equipment is fully functional and in a good state of repair;
- ensuring the kitchen area is always kept in a clean and orderly state and that staff maintain excellent hygiene standards;
- · verifying daily food checklist;
- verifying food quality on a daily basis, such as checking "best before" dates and ensuring

- refrigerated food is rotated correctly (i.e. using older ingredients first);
- overseeing efficient use of ingredients;
- ordering food and kitchen supplies;
- instructing, overseeing, and helping staff in the preparation, cooking, garnishing, and presentation of food:
- providing assistance and feedback to cooks on "daily special" planning;
- assisting Management in the selection of new kitchen staff and in the evaluation of existing staff:
- reporting offences under the Personnel Policy to Management;
- Other tasks that may from time to time be assigned by the Manager or Assistant Manager as the case may be.

All interested candidates should submit their application and resumes no later than:

June 29th, 2007 to: Management of Kanio-Kashee Lodge, P.O. Box 360, Waskaganish, Quebec, JOM 1RO, info@kanio-kasheelodge.ca

Kanio-Kashee Lodge will provide a fully furnished Mini home for the successful candidate.

CLASSIFIEDS

BIRTHS - 100

I wanted to wish my sister Annie Snowboy-Chakapash and her hubby Ralph congratulations on thier new baby born on May 14th, 2007 at 1:45 am, she weighed in at 9 lbs 2 oz. I just wanted to tell Annie that you had to wait for the miracle of having a baby girl. You finally did it after 3 boys, I wish you guys nothing but the best. Her name is Esther Juliet Emily-Ann Chakapash, Give her a big wet one for me. Can't wait to see her with love from your sister Dina in Mis

BIRTHDAYS - 101

I'd like to send out a birthday greeting to my adorable nephew, Donovan-Lee Calvin Jolly-Dixon. Donovan wishing you a Happy 5th Birthday. May your day be filled with joy & laughter and wishing you the very best in life & health. I love you very much, my little angel. Love always, Auntie Sherry in Ouje

A belated birthday wish going out to a good friend of ours, Varley Mianscum, who celebrated his special day on the 11th of May in Montreal....Happy Birthday Buddy!! (We had a blast with you guys). In friendship. Lorraine & Sherry in Ouje. Wishing a belated birthday wish to a very special person, Miss Lilbelle Bosum. She celebrated her birthday on May 14th. Hope your day was filled with joy & laughter for you deserve the very best. Love in friendship. Sherry.

I wanna wish a happy birthday to my sister Diane Salt on June 4, 2007 and also her daughter Erica Salt will be celebrating her birthday on June 5, 2007. Hope you two have a great day on your special days!!! Love you both, from: Natalie, Ashley and Saku Salt (Waskaganish).

I would like to wish happy birthdays!! coming up this June to my sister Natalie on June 6, 2007, my one and only daughter Erica on June 5, 2007, always a daughter, now to my friend, she's very special to me, and also to my niece Ashley on June 11, 2007. Hope you'll get a Dora cake!! Have fun on your birthdays!! Love you guy's so much! With lot's of love, Diane Salt xoxoxo (Waskaganish).

We would like to wish a happy 2nd belated birthday to our little Aunty Roseanna Annie, whose birthday is on May 28, 2007. Happy birthday to you, happy birthday to you, happy birthday dear Roseanna, happy birthday to you!!! With love: your nieces Erica and Ashley and your nephew, Saku (waskaganish).

We wanna wish a happy 2nd belated birthday to our little sister Roseanna Annie Whiskeychan, whose birthday is on May 28, 2007. We love you so much! from your sisters and brothers, Diane, Natalie, Mario, Waldo, Bertie and Trevor. (Waskaganish)

My daughter Ashley June Amber was born in Val'dOr, Que at 7:38 am weighting 8lbs and 7 ozs on June 11, 2004. Now she will be turning 3 years old on June the 11th. Time really sure files so fast, you have grown so fast, ur my little helper with your baby bro. I love you with all my heart, I'll be there for you my daughter. "Happy birthday n many more to come." Can't wait to see you ride your new bike, thats our present for you, me n your daddy. From your mommy, Natalie (Waskaganish).

We would like to wish Peterson Willie Brien Number 39...lol a happy birthday on the 18th of May, 2007. Wishing you the best in all you do way over there at the Montreal Quebec canada..lol we heart you aLOTS!! from ur son Nyles & Maggie xOx

Birthday wishes going out to the following people, Raina Snowboy on May 25th. George Chakapash on May 29th and Brittany Gilpin on June 17th. Hope you have a great birthday and many more to come from your auntie Dina and cousin Melissa in Mistissini. With lots of love and kisses.

I would like to wish a very special person a happy birthday: Caroline Neeposh, I can hear Scott right now...Ma!! your getting old now!...lol. Anyways sorry I can't be there for your birthday but I'll make to send u something in the mail, ok? Love ya

and we miss you, From Mamalee and ur munshkin, Devon xoxo.

We would like to wish Happy Birthday to 2 special boys, Harland Kitchen (our godson) on May 25/2007 and our nephew Dwayne Mathias on May 26/2007. With lots of love, Carole, Wasesguin, Alishia and Cherish

Happy 3rd birthday to our girl Alishia Gunner on May 30/2007. Jabouch Mommy and Daddy are so proud of you. you got rid of your diapers now, next thing we know you'll be in school, saah thats next year...lol. Anyways HAPPY BIRTH-DAY! We love you from: Mommy, Daddy and Baby sister Cherish.

I'd like to wish a Happy Birthday to the only man in my life, my son Harland Kitchen on May 25/2007. You've grown up so fast, already 7 years old. Love you my boy. Happy Birthday and many more to come. With lots of love and kisses, your Mommy Cathy xoxoxo.

Happy belated Birthday to my baby sister Queenie B.Swallow on May 12, 2007. Also Happy Mother's Day Sis. Thanks for everything. luv ya, fr:Charlotte.

Happy 5th Birthday to Trey Justus Turner in Thunder Bay, Ontario on June 10th. Have a very special birthday party and enjoy your special day. Love, Dad. Mom. Alexandria, Jordan, Jake, Vanessa, Jaimee, Kaylynn and Bailey. Also from family in Moose Factory and Mistissini.

PERSONAL MESSAGES - 300

A Happy Mother's Day to the following people. first my Mom Winnie Blsmith, my sisters Nancy B.Duff, Queenie B.Swallow, Bella Blsmith, and last but not least my Grand-ma Nancy Blacksmith. I Luv u very much Goo-kum, with luv

I would like to wish the following people a happy father's day, Abraham Snowboy, Robert Snowboy (my grandfather) and Robert Snowboy (my brother). My brother-in-laws Murray Gilpin and Ralph Chakapash and soon to be brother in law Brian Fireman. Extra loving wishes going out to the father of my daughter, Richard Matoush. I love you more than you'll ever know. Happy father's day from Dina in Mistissini

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS – 400

The Native Women's Shelter of Montreal has a 1-800 number. You can now reach us toll-free at: 1-866-403-4688. Please check out the our website at: www.nwsm.info and feel free to give us any feedback.

Do you need help? Someone to talk to? Call the Kid's Help Phone's toll-free num-1-800-668-6868, or check out their website at: www.kidshelp.symnatico ca.



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The Board of Directors and team at Niskamoon Corporation would like to extend their best wishes to all First Nations people on National Aboriginal Day.

May we celebrate our roots, our culture, our strength and determination that has allowed us to strive and remain throughout the centuries.

Have a happy and proud National Aboriginal Day!



